

SEP 23 1955

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Central Intelligence

THROUGH:

Deputy Director (Support)
Deputy Director (Intelligence)

SUBJECT:

Publication of Translation of Soviet Textbook
Political Economy

1. In compliance with your request, this Office has investigated alternative methods of publishing and disseminating this translation so that it may be available to scholars and university libraries as well as to Government Agencies. The most practicable methods (including the probable costs to this Agency for an edition of 500 copies) are as follows:

a. Government Printing Office (between \$6,000 and \$10,000). Requires sponsorship of the publication and its identification as an issuance of a specific US Government Agency. Our requests to the Departments of State and Commerce for ostensible sponsorship were refused on the basis of possible political repercussions and Congressional objection to such Governmental dissemination of "Communist propaganda".



c. Publication by CIA (linotype book-form, over \$7,000; duplicat, \$3,000-\$4,000). The Agency could issue the translation as an unclassified document with a removable cover-sheet (Tab A) and explanatory preface (Tab B). Dissemination to scholars, university libraries, and other private institutions could be made through the External Research Staff of the Department of State and the Contact Division, Office of Operations, as appropriate. This method of distribution would have certain quid pro quo advantages and would reduce both the political and security hazards. Use of the removable cover-sheet for

10 Oct. 1955
Exec. Reg. in
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TAB B

FOREWORD

This Soviet textbook, Political Economy, published under authoritative auspices in the USSR, presents a significant Soviet synthesis of the Marxist-Leninist-Stalinist view of economic development, as well as a general exposition of the policies, principles, and practices pertaining to economic activity and development of Communism in the USSR. It also expounds the Soviet concept of contemporary Western capitalism and imperialism, and contains a discussion on the development of "socialism" in Communist China and the European satellite countries.

Copies of the Russian edition of the textbook are available in the Library of Congress and in other libraries in this country. A forthcoming English translation of the book was advertised early in 1955, by "Imported Publications and Products", New York, but has not yet appeared. This translation is therefore being issued for the use of Government officials and specialists concerned with the study and interpretation of the Soviet Union and international communism. The opinions and views expressed in the textbook are, of course, those of the original authors, and the issuance of this translation implies no endorsement of them whatsoever.

Political Economy: A Textbook

This Textbook represents the current "official" Soviet doctrine on problems of economic history and development. It was translated for the use of those individuals and agencies in the U. S. Government most concerned with Soviet economic theories and policies. Although the entire book is Communist propaganda, in the purest sense of the term, it is also an important communist document, outlining and synthesizing the dogma of historical materialism as set forth by Marx, Engels, Lenin, and Stalin. The translation is therefore being made available to academic institutions, libraries, and scholars with the conviction that the Textbook's propagandistic character will be recognized; that its criticism of Capitalism and discussion of Socialism (Communism) will be understood in this context; and finally that greater understanding of Soviet economic principles and theories on the part of scholars in the Free World will enable them to find the fallacies in the Communist doctrines, explode the arguments, and counter the propaganda more easily.

The Strategy and Tactics of World Communism

PREFACE

No subject has been of deeper concern to the Government and the people of the United States for the last few years than that of communism. The question "What does Communist Russia want?" has been asked and asked again, and has received many answers. During the war we had accepted, perforce, that Russia was fighting on our side, and was even bearing the brunt of the fight. We had gone beyond this and believed that the Soviet state was allied to us in objectives beyond the defeat of Hitler; that it was altogether friendly. Promptly after the war a transition began, as Soviet and Communist actions contrary to our ideals or expectations began to disturb us.

Since the war Communist tactics in the countries of eastern Europe have appeared to us to violate agreements made concerning freedom and democracy in those countries. Revelations in Canada and Britain as well as in the United States have illustrated the Communist practice of espionage in a scarcely friendly fashion. Labor troubles under Communist stimulation have increased the difficulties of many countries in facing postwar problems of economic recovery. The Soviet has used its veto in the Security Council of the United Nations to block all action by the Council which might prejudice the cause of communism. The Soviet has used its position in Germany under Potsdam to interfere with any method of rehabilitation that we can understand.

Both the Soviet and the Communist Parties have formally announced their opposition to the project for European recovery, and have given notice that they will resort to all means to interfere with its success. And Communist propaganda, both from Soviet sources such as the Moscow radio and from Communist sources in all countries, has resorted to a standard line of attack upon the objectives of the United States, of contempt for American culture, and of uninhibited abuse.

All this has meant that the foreign policy of the United States has increasingly found that communism is a factor in every problem or situation. Communism, in its objectives, its strategy, and its practical working methods or tactics thereby assumes top priority for the attention of all concerned with the foreign affairs of the United States.

Subcommittee No. 5 of the Committee on Foreign Affairs was established in May 1947, with the assignment, among other matters, of studying such political movements as communism, fascism, and nationalism. Its first major study project was naturally concerned with the international impacts of Communist activities. This report is the first result of this study.

In preparing this report, and the supplements that accompany it the resources and aid of the Legislative Reference Service have been heavily drawn upon and generously given. Other agencies of the Government have also contributed information and materials requested by the subcommittee.

Other reports prepared under the auspices of the Congress have both lightened the task and have been of great value in the study. Among these, particular mention should be made of House Document No. 754 of the Seventy-

- 2 -

ninth Congress, Communism in Action, which offers a documented study of communism within the Soviet Union, and of the study of Trends in Russian Foreign Policy Since World War I, issued as a committee print by the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate. Both of these documents were prepared by the Legislative Reference Service.

The report of Subcommittee No. 5 is issued in several parts, including a summary report and several supplements. Those parts now ready, or in an advanced stage of preparation are listed below:

Report: The Strategy and Tactics of World Communism.

Supplement I. One Hundred Years of Communism (basic documents on Communist theory and practice).

Supplement II. Official Protests of the United States Government against Communist Policies or Actions.

Supplement III. Country and Regional Studies (to be issued as separate studies for a number of regions or countries where Communist activity is important).

(Above Preface copied from Report Subcommittee No. 5, National and International Movements, Hon. Frances P. Bolton, Chairman. - - House Committee on Foreign Affairs, 80th Congress, 2d Session.)

D R A F T

FOREWORD

The Soviet textbook, Political Economy, published under authoritative auspices in the USSR, presents a significant Soviet synthesis of the Marxist-Leninist-Stalinist view of economic development, as well as a general exposition of the policies, principles, and practices pertaining to economic activity and development of Communism in the USSR. It also expounds the Soviet concept of contemporary Western capitalism and imperialism, and contains a discussion on the development of socialism in Communist China and the European satellite countries.

As such it is here published in complete translation, without comment, simply as useful documentary material for government officials and scholars concerned with the study and interpretation of the Soviet Union and international communism. The opinions and views expressed, of course, are those of the original authors, and the publication of this translation implies no endorsement of them whatsoever.

(SENDER WILL CIRCLE CLASSIFICATION TOP AND BOTTOM)

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Remarks:

This is the project I spoke to you about on the telephone yesterday and for which you thought you could find the necessary funds for publication if the DCT so desires.



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Previous editions may be used.

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